

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-21 have been amended to replace the phrase "characterized in that" with "wherein" to provide proper antecedent basis for terms recited therein and thereby conform to U.S. practice. Claims 4-7, 9 and 10 have been amended to depend solely on Claim 1; Claims 13-17 and 21 have been amended to depend solely on Claim 10; and Claim 20 has been amended to depend solely on claim 17 thereby eliminating any multiple dependencies and more clearly defining the Applicants' invention. In addition, the element numbers have been removed from all claims in accordance with U.S. practice. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is introduced by these amendments, and requests entry thereof prior to examination on the merits.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4791-4017. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P.

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By: Bartholomew Verdirame
Bartholomew Verdirame
Registration No. 28,483

Mailing Address:

MORGAN & FINNEGANT, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281 2101
(212) 415-8700 (telephone)
(212) 415-8701 (facsimile)